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8 **UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**  
9 **EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**  
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11 J.S.1, J.S.2, T.S., and A.T., by and through their ) Case No.: 1:20-cv-01557 DAD JLT  
12 guardian ad litem, SAVANAH ST. CLAIR, )  
13 Plaintiff, ) ORDER VACATING THE HEARING DATE OF  
14 v. ) MAY 21, 2021  
15 COUNTY OF KERN, et al., ) ORDER GRANTING IN PART THE EX PARTE  
16 Defendants. ) APPLICATION REGARDING BLOCKED  
 ) BANK ACCOUNTS FOT THE MINOR  
 ) PLAINTIFFS  
 ) (Doc. 19)

17 J.S.1, J.S.2, T.S., and A.T., by and through their guardian ad litem Savanah St. Clair, assert that  
18 the minors were wrongfully removed from the custody of their parents by government Child  
19 Protection Services workers and subjected to unwanted and unnecessary medical procedures and  
20 examinations. (Doc. 1.) The parties settled the action, and the Court approved the minors'  
21 compromise. (Docs. 14, 18.)

22 Pursuant to the terms of the settlement, the defendants paid the total sum of \$250,000.00,  
23 including attorneys' fees and costs. (Doc. 18 at 2.) Because A.T. reached the age of majority, her  
24 share of the settlement was dispersed to her directly. (*Id.* at 3; *see also* Doc. 19 at 2, n.1.) The minor  
25 plaintiffs, J.S.1, J.S.2., and T.S., are each to receive \$50,000.00, which is to be deposited in separate  
26 blocked accounts. (*See* Doc. 11-1 at 2; Doc. 11-2 at 3, St. Clair Decl. ¶¶ 5-7.) The children will not  
27 have access to these accounts until they are 18 years old. (Doc. 18 at 2.) Plaintiffs report the  
28 settlement funds have been received from Defendants. (Doc. 19 at 2, n.1.)

1 Plaintiffs report Mrs. St. Clair has attempted to open blocked accounts for J.S.1, J.S.2, and T.S.  
2 at Chase Bank, but “[t]he bank officer requested that a more definite order directing the exact amount  
3 to be deposited on behalf of each minor, as opposed to simple approving the gross amount.” (Doc. 19  
4 at 2.) According to Plaintiff, “absent an order from this Court expressly directing that three distinct  
5 blocked bank accounts be opened, i.e., one for each of the minors, and further directing that  
6 \$50,000.00 be deposited into each of those three accounts, Chase Bank will not open the accounts as  
7 requested.” (*Id.*) Therefore, Plaintiffs now seek an order “directing Chase Bank to accept for deposit  
8 into each account the total amount of \$50,000” and “directing Chase Bank (or similar) to open the  
9 necessary blocked accounts for the minor plaintiffs.” (*Id.* at 2-3.)

10 Significantly, the Court lacks jurisdiction over Chase Bank to specifically direct that entity—or  
11 any another banking facility— to open the desired blocked accounts. Accordingly, the Court is unable  
12 to grant relief in the precise amount requested. Accordingly, the Court **ORDERS**:

- 13 1. The ex parte application (Doc. 19) is **GRANTED IN PART**;
- 14 2. Savannah St. Clair **SHALL** open a blocked account at Chase Bank or other financial  
15 institution for T.S., in the amount of \$50,000.00;
- 16 3. Savannah St. Clair **SHALL** open a blocked account at Chase Bank or other financial  
17 institution for J.S.1., in the amount of \$50,000.00;
- 18 4. Savannah St. Clair **SHALL** open a blocked account at Chase Bank or other financial  
19 institution for J.S.2., in the amount of \$50,000.00; and
- 20 5. Plaintiffs’ counsel shall file under seal proof that the money was deposited into three  
21 blocked accounts for T.S., J.S.1, and J.S.2 within fourteen days of the date of service of  
22 this order.

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24 IT IS SO ORDERED.

25 Dated: May 17, 2021

/s/ Jennifer L. Thurston  
26 CHIEF UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE  
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